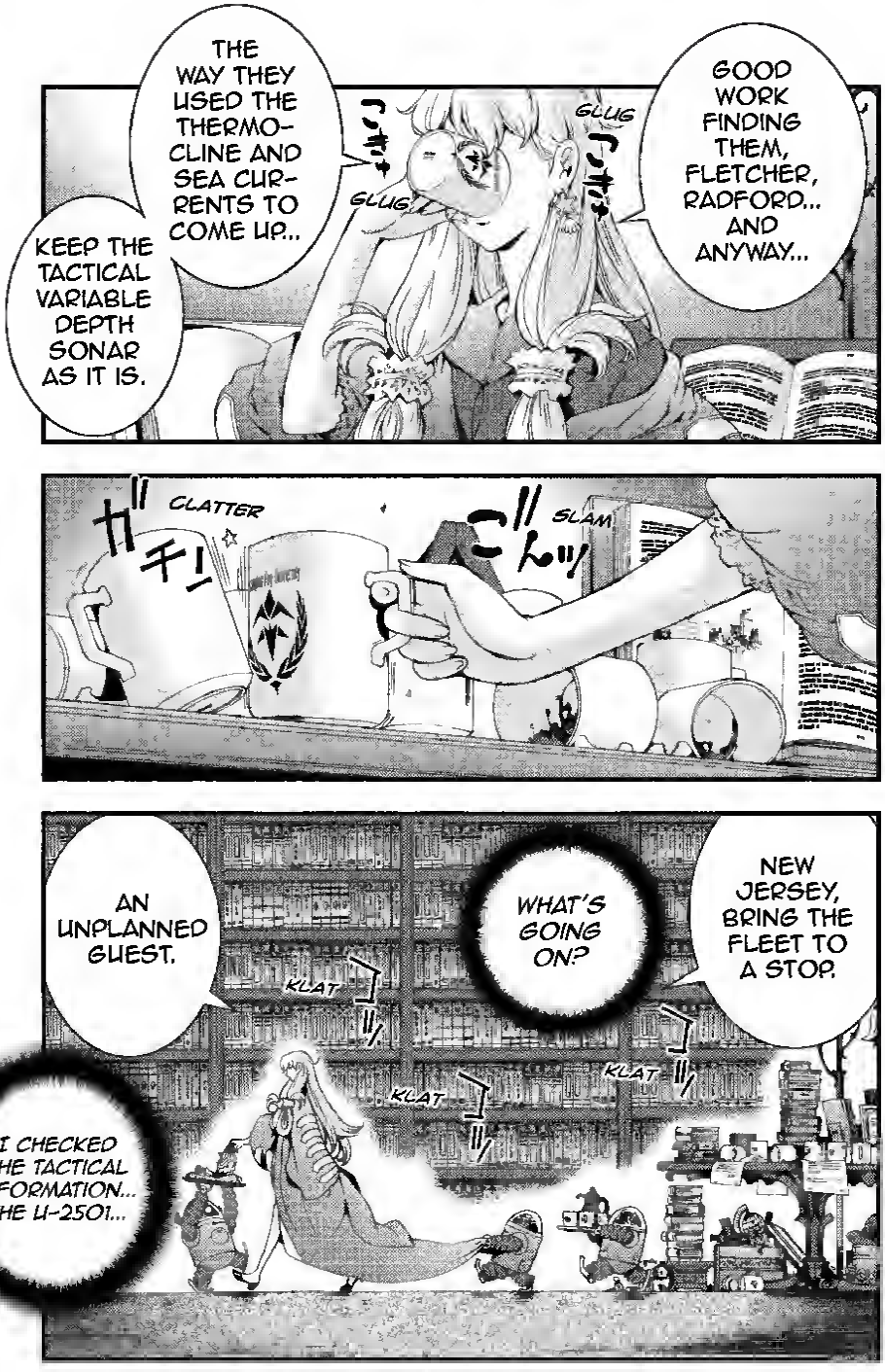
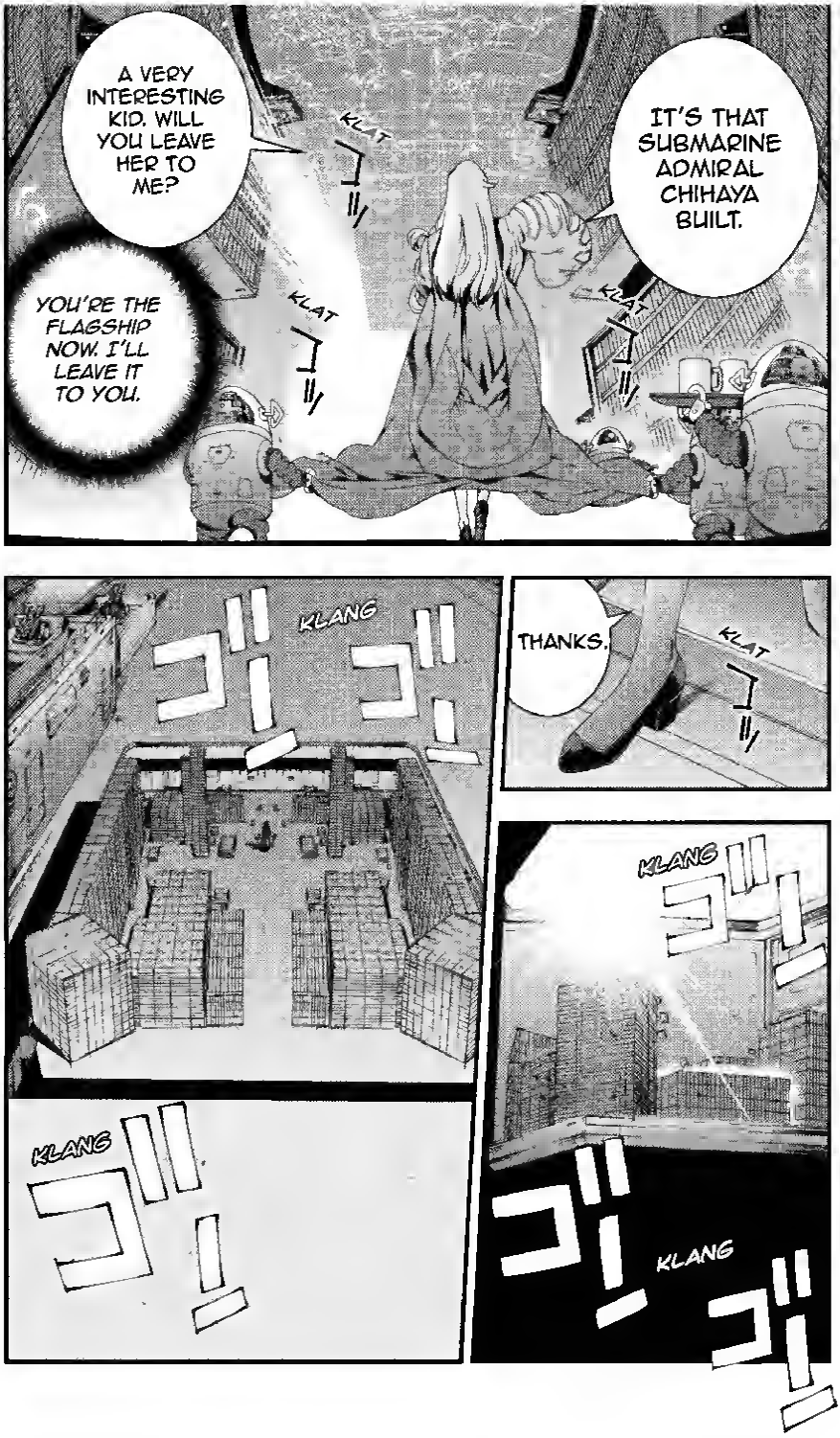
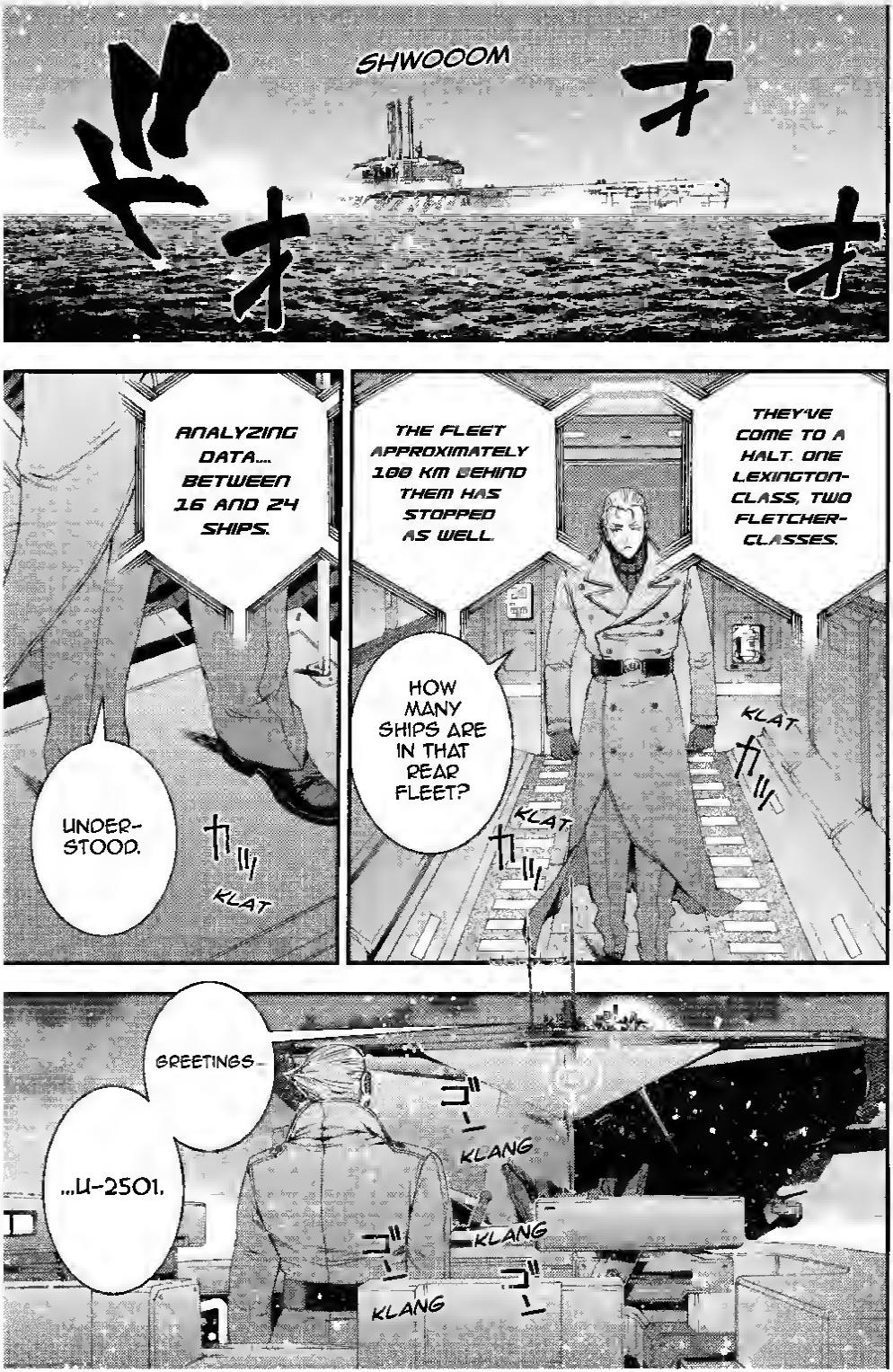
RUMBLE
UH... YEAH.
YEAH. GOT IT. I'M ON MY WAY NOW.
DON'T RUSH ME.
STAGGER
STAGGER
I'VE GOT THEM ON MY SENSORS AND SONAR.
CLATTER
CLATTER


THE WAY THEY USED THE THERMO-CLINE AND SEA CUR-RENTS TO COME UP...
KEEP THE TACTICAL VARIABLE DEPTH SONAR AS IT IS.
GLUG
GLUG
GOOD WORK FINDING THEM, FLETCHER, RADFORD... AND ANYWAY...
CLATTER
SLAM
AN UNPLANNED GUEST.
I CHECKED THE TACTICAL INFORMATION... THE U-2501...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
NEW JERSEY, BRING THE FLEET TO A STOP.
KLAT
KLAT
KLAT


A VERY INTERESTING KID. WILL YOU LEAVE HER TO ME?
KLAT
IT'S THAT SUBMARINE ADMIRAL CHIHAYA BUILT.
KLAT
KLAT
YOU'RE THE FLAGSHIP NOW. I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.
KLANG
THANKS.
KLAT
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG

SEA AREA ASSAULT AND SUPPRESSION SHIP
LEXINGTON
GA-CHUNK
FLUMP
FLUMP
FLUMP


SHWOOOM
ANALYZING DATA.... BETWEEN 16 AND 24 SHIPS.
UNDER-STOOD.
KLAT
THE FLEET APPROXIMATELY 100 KM BEHIND THEM HAS STOPPED AS WELL.
HOW MANY SHIPS ARE IN THAT REAR FLEET?
KLAT
THEY'VE COME TO A HALT. ONE LEXINGTON-CLASS, TWO FLETCHER-CLASSES.
KLAT
GREETINGS-
...U-2501.
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG

GREETINGS, LEXINGTON.
I AM ZOLDAN STARKE, CAPTAIN OF THE U-2501.
I'M AWARE.
OF YOU, AND OF ADMIRAL CHIHAYA AS WELL.
SO? I'D LIKE YOU TO STATE YOUR BUSINESS.
AND I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR WHAT YOU AND THE FLEET BEHIND YOU ARE AFTER.
DOES OUR OBJECTIVE HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU?
FLIP
FLIP
FLUMP
FLUMP

ZOLDAN, I'VE FINISHED THE ANALYSIS. THERE ARE 26 SHIPS IN THE REAR FLEET.
PROBABLY.
VERY WELL. I'LL TELL YOU OUR OBJECTIVE.
WE'RE PLANNING...
...ON SUPPORTING THE FAR EAST THEATRE 1ST CRUISING FLEET.
SUP-PORTING?
WAS THAT A REQUEST FROM THEM?
NO.

KA-CHUNK
NO.
KA-CHUNK
...IT'S AN ORDER FROM HIGH FLAGSHIP YAMATO?
THEN...
YOU'RE DOING THIS OF YOUR OWN VOLI-TION?
THEN...
YES.
INTERFERING WITH A BATTLE OUTSIDE OUR JURISDICTION AND WITHOUT PERMISSION EXCEEDS OUR AUTHORITY... THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY, RIGHT?
YES.
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY, ZOLDAN.

...THE FAR EAST FLEET IS GOING ABOUT THIS THE WRONG WAY.
PUT SIMPLY...
SURROUND IT AND BLAST THE THING, AND YOU'RE DONE IN AN INSTANT, RIGHT?
PLAP
IT'S JUST ONE SHIP.
HOW SO?
THIS IS A PROB-LEM.
THAT'S HOW IT IS. MAY I GO?

IF YOU INTERVENE, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET THE PROPER DATA.
MY ADMIRAL HAS GIVEN US ORDERS TO GATHER DATA...
...ON THE FLAGSHIP EQUIPMENT THAT KONGOU, FLAGSHIP OF THE 1ST CRUISING FLEET, IS USING.
IS HE PLANNING ON FIGHTING KONGOU?
AND WHY DO YOU SUPPOSED ADMIRAL... CHIHAYA WANTS THAT DATA?
Oh.
COMPARED WITH THE CHANCE TO SINK THE 401...
INTER-ESTING.
I'D PREFER YOU ASKED THE ADMIRAL THAT YOURSELF.
COULDN'T SAY.
...THAT'S A MINOR ISSUE, IS IT NOT?

CLICK
CLICK
YOU'RE NOT DENYING IT, ARE YOU?
WE SIMPLY FOLLOW THE ORDERS WE'RE GIVEN.
IF YOU INSIST ON FIGHTING OUTSIDE YOUR JURISDICTION...
...I'LL ASK YOU TO GET PERMISSION FROM THE PROPER AUTHORITIES.
I SEE. SO...
I WONDER WHAT YOU'LL DO IF WE JUST KEEP ON GOING FORWARD?

...WE WERE GIVEN STRICT ORDERS NOT TO INTERFERE WITH THE 401'S FIGHT, CORRECT?
AS I RECALL...
DON'T FORGET THAT WE'RE PRETTY BEAT UP.
JEEZ...
FLASH
BUT WE WEREN'T GIVEN ANY OTHER ORDERS FORBIDDING COMBAT.
YES.
CLICK
YOU'RE NEVER WRONG.
CLICK
EVER.
I BELIEVE YOU WILL MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE.
GIVE ME YOUR ORDERS, CAPTAIN.

...YOU'VE NEVER...
EVER SINCE WE MET...
CAPTAIN?
—TAIN...?
...YES?
2501...
WHIR
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME.

CAN YOU...
...STILL FIGHT?
IF THAT...
...IS YOUR WISH.
PREPARE FOR BATTLE, 2501.
RE-LEASE LOCKS ON ALL EQUIP-MENT.

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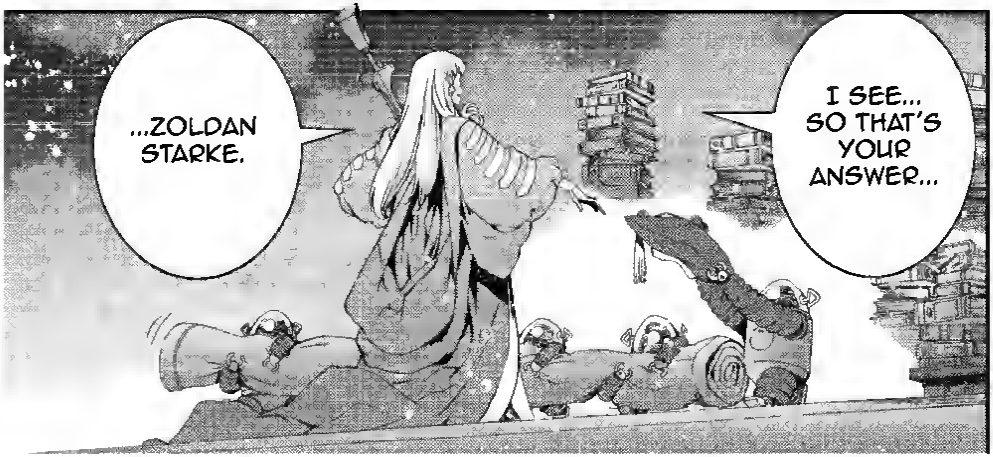
RUMBLE


...ZOLDAN STARKE.
I SEE... SO THAT'S YOUR ANSWER...

VERY WELL. IF YOU CAN REPEL US WITH JUST A SINGLE SHIP...
...THEN I, LEXINGTON OF THE FOG...
...SHALL GIVE YOUR TACTICAL THEORIES FULL CREDIT!
FWIP

Lexington Fog University
...
I'LL TAKE IT!